

RAILROAD.

MEMORIAL

OF THE

LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA,

RELATIVE TO

*A grant of land to aid in the construction of a railroad between the southern portion of the State and the interior of the west.*

MARCH 22, 1848.

Referred to the Committee on Public Lands, and ordered to be printed.

*Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Alabama in General Assembly convened, That the following joint memorial be transmitted by the governor of this State to the Senators and Representatives of this State at Washington, to be laid before both houses of Congress.*

JOINT MEMORIAL of the General Assembly of the State of Alabama, to the Congress of the United States.

Your memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Alabama, show to your honorable body, that the citizens of this State are deeply interested in a communication by railway between the Southern part of this State and the interior of the west, for the construction of which a company has been formed and the initiatory steps taken; that the completion of such a road would be of immense advantage to the people of both the western and southern portions of our common country, in a commercial point of view, by the facility of an interchange of commodities peculiar to the two sections of country, and in a social and political view by the rapid means of communication, binding the inhabitants together by the strongest of all bonds, a community of interest.

The proposed improvement would bring the products of the West Indies among the inhabitants of the interior in a short time, and also furnish the inhabitants of the south with a certain and cheap supply of the staple commodities of the western country, composed as they are of the great supporters of human life; while in a military point of view the proposed road would be of inconceivable importance, enabling the government, at short notice, and at comparatively small cost, in time of war to transport a large force to the defence of any assailable point on the gulf coast.

Your memorialists would therefore respectfully ask your honorable

bodies to set apart for the purpose, and in aid of this project, the alternate sections of unsold public lands on the line of the route.

A great portion of this country has for a long time been in the market, and remains unsold, for want of bidders; and this road, when completed, will add largely to the value of the public land, and will increase the value of the unsold and ungranted lands largely above the present value of the whole amount of land on the line of the road.

Thinking thus, your memorialists most heartily join in the application for the grant of the land specified, as prayed for by the company and by the corporate authority of the city of Mobile, and most respectfully hope that it may meet the approbation of your honorable body.

L. P. WALKER,

*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

JNO. A. WINSTON,

*President of the Senate.*